

THE REORGANIZATION MEETING FOR THE BOROUGH OF FREELAND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY WAS HELD ON JANUARY 21, 2026, PRIOR TO THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER, THE ENGINEER, THE SOLICITOR AND THE SECRETARY.

REORGANIZATION

Attorney Malaska called the reorganization meeting for calendar year 2026 to order with a salute to the flag.

Mr. Tierney nominated David Kavitski as Chairman, and Mr. Kuklis second the nomination. Mr. Kavitski accepted the nomination. Mr. Thomas made the motion to close the nomination and Mr. Tierney second the motion. None opposed. Vote 5-0 for Mr. Kavitski as Chairman.

Mr. Tierney nominated James Fisher as Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Kuklis second the nomination. Mr. Fisher accepted the nomination. Mr. Thomas made the motion to close the nomination and Mr. Tierney second the motion. None opposed. Vote 5-0 for Mr. Fisher as Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Tierney nominated Paul Thomas as Secretary, and Mr. Kuklis second the nomination. Mr. Thomas accepted the nomination. Mr. Tierney made the motion to close the nomination and Mr. Kuklis second the motion. None opposed. Vote 5-0 for Mr. Thomas as Secretary.

Mr. Thomas nominated Mr. Tierney as Treasurer, and Mr. Fisher second the nomination. Mr. Tierney accepted the nomination. Mr. Kuklis made the motion to close the nomination and Mr. Fisher second the motion. None opposed. Vote 5-0 for Mr. Tierney as Treasurer.


Mr. Thomas nominated Mr. Kuklis as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, and Mr. Tierney second the nomination. Mr. Kuklis accepted the nomination. Mr. Thomas made the motion to close the nomination and Mr. Tierney second the motion. None opposed. Vote 5-0 for Mr. Kuklis as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Attorney Malaska asked for one motion to retain and accept the following agents for the calendar year 2026:

Gregory D. Malaska Young & Haros	Solicitor
Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG, Inc.)	Engineer
Meiser & Earl, Inc.	Hydrogeologist
Snyder & Clemente	Accountant
Community Bank, n.a. & ESSA Bank and First National Bank	Depositories
Carlene Troell	Non-Member Secretary

Mr. Thomas made the motion to obtain all agents for the calendar year 2026 and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. Attorney Malaska turned the meeting over to Mr. Kavitski to start the Regular Monthly Meeting at this time.

These minutes are certified true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Paul Thomas, Secretary



Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary

REORGANIZATION 2026

Board Members:

David Kavitski	Chairman
Jame Fisher	Vice-Chairman
Paul Thomas	Secretary
Thomas Tierney	Treasurer
Open	Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Retain the Following:

Gregory D. Malaska Young & Haros	Solicitor
Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG, Inc.)	Engineer
Meiser & Earl, Inc.	Hydrogeologists
Snyder & Clemente	Accountant
Community Bank, n.a. & ESSA Bank and First National Bank	Depositories
Carlene Troell	Non-Member Secretary

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026, AT 6 PM, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY, MR. KUKLIS, ATTORNEY MALASKA, BRENDEN MILLER OF HRG, CHRIS FERDIK OF HRG (via Zoom), THE TECHNICAL MANAGER AND THE SECRETARY.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Michele Connors was present via Zoom. Atty Errin McCaulley, Citterio Counsel, was present via Zoom. Two others present via Zoom, one under Michael G but did not participate and other under Nick but did not participate.

Atty Malaska informed the two people who would not identify themselves for the record will be allowed to listen to the meeting but could not participate.

Mr. Joseph Petruce of Citterio was present in person for the meeting. He is representing Citterio to show their interest and their efforts moving forward.

Atty. Errin McCaulley stated he was in attendance to represent Citterio.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated December 1, 2025, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated December 5, 2025, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 17, 2025, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

APPROVE DECEMBER PAID INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve December paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$374,706.65, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$270,636.83, and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2709-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$247,128.39, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$117,855.81, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$1,310.33, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2709-B).

The Board inquired about the Core & Main Invoices, Carlene explained that was the discounted price for 500 radio readers and 302 Sensus Meters, which are starting to be installed currently.

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2709-C.

Mr. Kuklis made a motion to refund 985 Chestnut Street for \$61.00 Water and \$62.00 Sewer, Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2709-D).

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc., presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2709-E).

Sewer Area

Mr. Kavitski inquired with the Board about rearranging the Sewer Division Area of the Agenda. He asked to move the Citterio Permit Extension to the first position and the Board agreed.

Mr. Kavitski asked for a motion to extend the Citterio USA Permit Extension to October 31, 2026, Carlene Troell inquired with Chris Ferdik if the date should be the 30th or the 31st.

Chris Ferdik (via Zoom) stated the Permit is through October 30th and current permit expires at midnight on October 31, so technically you should use October 30th.

Mr. Fisher made the motion to extend Citterio IPP Permit Extension through October 30, 2026, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2709-F).

Mr. Petruce thanked the entire Board for the extension of the permit.

Atty Malaska spoke to Atty McCaulley regarding a revised COA and the permit is extended until October 30, 2026. We will continue to send our deliverables out to each other.

Atty McCaulley thanked Atty Malaska for the information.

Chris Ferdik stated HRG is revising the COA currently. Atty Malaska and Atty Pompo will review the COA prior to sending to Atty McCaulley.

-SIUA and IPP Items – Chris Ferdik of HRG (via Zoom) discussed this area of the report. Citterio is working through IPP compliance. HRG has sent support issuance to the December 22, 2025, letter. Rettew and HRG had a virtual meeting which was very productive. Citterio Meeting on January 13, 2026, was held for review of items. IPP Penalty discussion and the total amount were outlined in the Solicitor's letter dated January 16, 2026. Citterio is continuing to work with Sanitizer Alternative Trials with safety, health, and compliance. Citterio has also been reducing the Ammonia levels too. SPCC Plan has been updated and is found acceptable. NOV #26-001 was issued to Citterio.

FOG awareness packages continue to collect the information. Headworks Analysis continues. TDS Effluent Data is being collected.

-Sludge Dewatering Project – The Press had a fault; Ryan Smith worked with the Electrical Contractor and JDV, the problem was a relay within the Schwing Panel. Schwing will be sending a few relays to the Authority.

Mr. Kavitski inquired why the relay failed. Brenden Miller said he did not know why it failed.

Mr. Kavitski stated putting a new relay in without knowing what caused it to fail does not help.

Ryan Smith stated the relay looks brand new; it must have been something internal. I do not believe it is the panel itself. The one relay is being used to open and close doors.

Mr. Kavitski stated when there is a failure we should know the reason why, if there are different people here there would be information on the failure because the Authority is documenting in binders or on computer. If something happens again, we can go back and look to see the cause.

Mr. Fisher inquired how often the relay needed to be moved and Ryan Smith stated once or twice a week.

Mr. Kavitski stated if the relays continue to fail someone needs to come out and investigate the equipment.

Kappe Associates has provided a COSTARS quote for the Platform Extension which is included in the Engineering Report. HRG has reviewed and recommend the Authority move forward with it.

The Final PENNVEST Closeout was held up waiting for DEP to approve some items. DEP has approved all items now and there is a PENNVEST change form for \$13,935.89, moving monies from different categories to engineering category to closeout the project. The Final Payment Request will also be submitted to PENNVEST with Board Approval tonight.

-NPDES Permit Renewal – DEP inquired about the Cyanide testing, once all data is received, they will review.

-ACT 537 Special Study – HRG is waiting for the PAWC Agreement to be finalized.

-Chestnut Street Sewer Project – Record drawings were sent to FMA staff on January 7, 2026. Nothing else is required for the project.

Water Area

-Oak Street Water Storage Tank – Job conference meeting January 8th at the Authority Building and the updated schedule was received from both Contractors which had no significant schedule changes. Linde is scheduling the Cathodic Protection and painting. AFP for Linde was submitted and PENNVEST Payment Request was submitted.

-SRBC Consumptive Use Mitigation Project – Taylor Blair has straightened out the corrupt data with the SCADA System. He is also placing all the historical data into the system. Staci is looking at the trends now to work out any bugs within the system.

Ryan Smith requested some hands-on training for the system along with Brittany.

The payment request for this project was submitted with HRG and the Authority working together. SRBC is reviewing all information submitted for the Grant Reimbursement Payment to the Authority.

-Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study – DEP is still reviewing. Mr. Fisher inquired about the piping in Sandy Run, which is mainly plastic pipe.

-Iron and Manganese Treatment – Grant application submitted in November 2025 and HRG is waiting for a decision from CFA on the application. HRG will monitor any assistance that can be provided from the PFAS Settlement Project Effort.

Mr. Thomas inquired if the Authority has heard from Mr. Eachus regarding the PFAS.

Ryan Smith stated there is paperwork which needs to be submitted for each Well by March or so.

Atty Malaska inquired about the paperwork completion from the conference call he and Ryan Smith attended.

Mr. Joseph Petruce just wanted to thank the entire Board and Citterio is working really hard for compliance and what we are required to comply with. He thanked each person individually. We hope to continue to move forward in a proper way. Citterio has a lot of employees which live here. We look forward to working positively together to make more progress and that is for us to be more positive and requires the Authority to be positive too. We truly appreciate it.

Mr. Kavitski stated we are trying to work with Citterio too. It is just a different world from twenty years ago.

Mr. Petruce said it is truly a different world I remember when our wastewater was placed into the mine pits and cost us nothing and now it is costing us millions.

Mr. Kuklis stated DEP and EPA places requirements on us, and we have to meet those requirements.

Mr. Petruce stated we are a meat processing facility and a lot of salt, fat and grease going on and I know you have asked me to see the facility. I am all for that, but we cannot have everybody, but we will talk about it. And again, thank you very much for the permit extension because it would have been really tough on January 31st to tell 450 people, they did not have a job. It is appreciated.

-ARPA Grant Administration – No update.

-CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant – The grant for the Water Piggling Project was awarded to the Authority yesterday, which is only a partial of the total grant application. HRG and FMA will need to meet to see exactly what can be done for the amount awarded which was \$245,851.00

Mr. Kuklis inquired how much piggling can be completed with the grant money.

Brenden Miller is looking at the plan that was submitted to determine how far the money would allow the Authority to complete.

There was discussion on the process of piggling for the water mains.

The application submitted for the Upper Leigh Tank Demolition and Water Main Relocation was not awarded to the Authority, Brenden will check to confirm.

Carlene Troell mentioned the email from the CFA after their meeting and the Authority was not included in awarded projects.

The Fe/Mn Well Project Grant Application is pending yet.

-SRBC Grant Application – HRG will submit application before the January 30th deadline for the Meter Replacement/Radio Read Project. The grant is for (2) base stations, 500 water meters and associated installation. There is a cost estimate included in the Engineer's Report. A matching funds commitment letter is included with the Engineer's Report. HRG recommends doing the meter project once a year for three years.

Mr. Kuklis inquired about HRG's half of the Platform Extension and Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority already received payment.

SEWER DIVISION

Approve Final Closeout PENNVEST Payment Request #11 in the amount of \$143,606.31 for the Sludge Dewatering Project which includes category changes from Legal \$12,096.25 and \$1,839.64 from Permits Category to Engineering Category, Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2711-A).

Kappe Associates COSTARS Quote – Platform Retrofit at the cost of \$22,600.00, Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2711-B).

Black Birch Engineering Quote for Backup Scada System with a price not to exceed \$3,500.00,

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2711-C).

Mr. Kavitski explained the Backup SCADA to the Board. There is only one SCADA Computer at the Sewer Plant, and this device is a backup for the SCADA Computer.

Mr. Kuklis inquired if there is a way to test it. Mr. Kuklis recommends Ryan Smith to place on task list and train everyone how to use it.

Ryan Smith will speak to Black Birch Engineering to be shown how to test and use it, if needed.

PA American Water Agreement Discussion – Atty Malaska has a draft, and the only disputed item is the capacity issue, and this will be discussed later in the Executive Session.

WATER DIVISION

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve Oak Street Water Storage Tank Contract #24-03 General Construction Pay App #11 – Linde Corporation in the amount of \$12,647.25 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-A).

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve the PENNVEST Payment Request #13 in the amount of \$40,219.60 for the Oak Street Tank Project and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-B).

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve matching funds commitment letter for 2026 SRBC Meter Improvements Project Grant with the amount of \$93,800.00 and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-C).

MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager report. (Reference 2712-D).

Watching the Leak Loggers closely with the blasting that is being done over at Balas Distributing. It is taking place behind his new building. He spoke with Pottsville Mining regarding the blasting, the company who is doing the work is very reputable company and they have a permit.

Mr. Kuklis inquired how long the blasting will be and Ryan Smith said this week they should be done. Kohls Bros Well 10 Pump & Accessories Upgrade Quote \$48,500 – Mr. Kavitski was explaining to the Board that Jay Lynch is saying there is a Water Bearing Zone is at 105 feet and does not want the pump below that zone. Mr. Kavitski inquired where the level was when the pump ran 24/7 years ago and this is what we need to know.

Mr. Kuklis inquired how deep the Well is. Mr. Kavitski stated many years ago it was 500 feet. We need to know facts prior to spending \$48,000 and placing a larger pump in the Well and he is not sure if records show the depths from years ago.

Mr. Kuklis stated in the 1990s, the Well pumped 24/7 and why did we change from a 20 HP to a 10 HP. Maybe we should go back to 20 HP. Ryan Smith explained it would cost more because the VFD would need to be replaced entirely not just components.

Ryan Smith stated a 15 HP would provide double the capacity in water from 75 to 150. Ryan Smith will look for the pump tests from years ago.

Mr. Kavitski inquired about running it now 24/7. Ryan Smith stated in a drought scenario it could run more. Mr. Kavitski stated we need to set up another meeting just to discuss this Well and I recommend tabling this quote for now. Mr. Tierney made the motion to table Kohl Bros Quote and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Containment Spill at Wells for \$4,270.00 for the Freeland Water System and this is a DEP requirement, Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-E).

Containment Spill at Sandy Run will be placed on the agenda for next month.

LRM Pump Rebuild Kits & pH Sensors Quote for \$3,191.00, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-F).

PenTeleData Quote for Dark Fiber Installation at Oak Street Water Tank – The quote to install is \$3,001.00 and the monthly recurring fee is \$250.00; Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-G).

LB Industries – Well 12 Repiping Install – COSTARS Quote for \$18,965.00; Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2712-H).

Mr. Kuklis inquired what percentage is Well 12 completed. Ryan Smith stated he did not have a percentage, but he can say the VFD will be the holdup, because delivery is approximately May and everything else should be in place by that time. Ryan Smith informed the Board that the repiping costs will not be paid out of the insurance claim per the insurance carrier.

Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority needs to speak with Brown & Brown because it does not seem fair, this was a failure on the piping.

Mr. Kuklis inquired about the other wells with ductile iron. Mr. Kavitski stated I thought our guys were going to do the work. Ryan Smith stated we can, but I was requested to have LB do the work.

Mr. Kavitski stated Well 10 is high pressure Well with Sch. 80 and that needs to be changed. Also, the Authority needs to really look at Insurance Companies this coming year.

The form 43 sludge samples were received late from Kirby's contracted lab, Suburban, and has delayed our ability to continue hauling to the landfill. One container was rejected at the landfill because of this and there will be a charged from Fought's. Mr. Kavitski wants the charge to be sent to the laboratory.

Ryan Smith stated this year he wants to start in October with these samples to be sure all results are received in time and also look into another laboratory.
 Mr. Kuklis inquired if we knew Kirby was sending samples to Suburban why did we not just go directly to Suburban. Ryan Smith stated that Suburban is difficult to contact if you have questions.
 Mr. Kuklis recommended obtaining quotes from Eurofins for sampling.
 Mr. Fisher inquired about Ridge Street and are cones still there. Ryan Smith stated it should be and they are still there in case of further settling. In the springtime, it will be dug, compacted and repaved.
 Mr. Tierney inquired about Walnut Street area that was dug. Ryan Smith stated the customer placed a new sewer line there and they are responsible for it.
 Mr. Kuklis stated the Boro should be going after the Contractor for this work.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #201843 \$26,661.85; Invoice #201844 \$6,937.00; Invoice #201845 \$4,278.16; Invoice #202455 \$1,030.00; Invoice #202456 \$910.50; Invoice #202457 \$2,345.20; Invoice #203188 \$1,080.00; Invoice #203189 \$260.00; Invoice #203620 \$3,270.00; Invoice #203127 \$3,321.00; Invoice #203128 \$15,646.00; Invoice #203135 \$9,000.00; Invoice #203129 \$1,068.50; Invoice #203130 \$180.00 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2713-A).

ATTORNEY REPORT

Atty Malaska submitted his Legal Report which dealt with Citterio, PAWC and PFAS litigation claim.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Rainfall for the month was 3.73"

Cleveland Brothers Quote for Skid Steer Forks \$1193.40 and Backhoe Teeth \$176.70 – Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2713-B).

Ryan Smith explained to the Board the forks were bent using the Skid Steer on the Sludge Containers. Mr. Kavitski stated the Skid Steer should not be used for sludge containers; the backhoe should be.

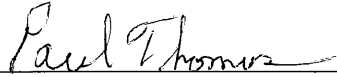
Meter Reader Box Replacement Fee \$240.00 – Mr. Thomas made a motion to implement the fee and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2713-C).

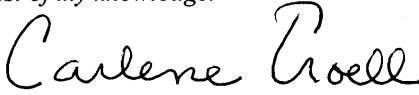
Contractors or Homeowners remove the box and throw them away.

The Authority is looking into vinyl/waterproof stickers to place on the meter box stating they are property of the Authority. Mr. Kuklis recommends spraying the labels with clear coat paint.

Mr. Kuklis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting to go into Executive Session and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0.

These minutes are certified true and correct to the best of my knowledge.


 Paul Thomas, Secretary


 Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary